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Urban District Council of St. Annes-on-the-Sea.

Annual Report

OF

FREDK. BOOTH, M.D., C.M.

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE YEAR

1915.

St. Annes-on-the-Sea:
Visitor Printing Works (J. Robertson & Co.), off Park Road.
1916.

BRITISH MUSEUM
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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1915.

To the Chairman and Gentlemen of the Urban District Council of St. Annes-on-the-Sea.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Twenty-sixth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary condition of the district, together with a report of the Sanitary and Veterinary Inspectors and Surveyor. For several years I have included in the report a summary of the work done by the Medical Superintendent in our four Elementary Schools, but owing to the great depletion of his staff, caused by the War, this is not available.

In past years the population of the district has been calculated by ascertaining the number of inhabited houses and multiplying them by the number of persons which was found to exist per house at the last Census of 1911, namely, 4.87. By this method we should have a population of 10,845, but from this we must deduct this year the number of persons who up to the end of December, 1915, had joined the Colours, which, as far as one can ascertain, was 520, which would make the population 10,325.

This method, which seems to me as if it would give the fairest result, has this year, by request, had to be abandoned, and the estimate of the civil population, namely, 9,933, has been derived from the National Register Returns by the way here below described.

The ratio of the total population, less the males aged 15 to 65 years, to the number of females aged 15 to 65 years, at the date of the Census, was calculated for each administrative area, and this ratio was applied to the number of females on the National Register; the resulting product, plus the number of males aged 15 to 65 years on the National Register, was taken to be the number of the civil population of the district. A small adjustment was necessary in order to make the sum of the estimates for the several districts equal to the estimate for the country as a whole, made on the same basis. Further, the population in institutions was not registered, and this (taken to be the same in the aggregate for England and Wales as at Census date), together with a number of persons of no fixed abode, were distributed evenly over the whole country. These two adjustments raised the original estimates by about one per cent.

The number of houses, both occupied and empty, or in course of erection, in each of the four Wards, taken at the end of the year, with those of 1914 for comparison, is as follows:—

Ward.	1915.			1914.		
	Occupied.	Empty or in course of erection.	Total	Occupied.	Empty or in course of erection	Total.
North ...	475	15	490	465	15	480
South ...	812	53	865	806	57	863
East... ...	700	19	719	699	21	720
West ...	240	19	259	243	14	259
Total ...	2227	106	2333	2215	107	2322

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It will be thus seen that the inhabited houses have increased by 11 only, as compared with 68 and 76 for the two previous years.

The Births registered during the year were 96 in number—46 males and 50 females—as compared with 114 last year, and an average of the past four years of 122. This gives a rate, calculated on the greatly reduced estimate of population, of 11.5; for last year, on the then estimate of 10,787, being 10.5.

The Deaths, including 15 residents who died outside the district, and excluding 14 visitors who died within the district, were 131 in number—59 males and 72 females—giving a rate of 13.1, as compared with 9.3 last year, under the old estimated population. The ages at which death took place, which may be seen on Table III., show that 43 per cent. occurred over 65 years of age.

It must be noted, for the first time in the annals of St. Annes, that the Birth-rate has fallen below the Death-rate, and judging from my Annual Reports since 1890, when it was 18.8, it has almost persistently declined.

It is pleasing to note, considering the billeting of the great number of soldiers, and the suspicion of some as to the consequences, that only two illegitimate births were registered during the year.

The population of each of the four Wards, as calculated from the number of inhabited houses, with their respective Birth-rates and Death-rates, is as follows:—

Ward.	Population.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.
North	2139	7.5	10.8
South	3658	4.4	16.7
East	3154	17.7	13.1
West	1082	7.4	11.1

The ages at which death took place, as seen on Table III., shows that 43 per cent. occurred over 65 years of age, and the deaths of infants under one year, to 1,000 births,

was 31, which is highly satisfactory when we compare it with the County rate for 1914 of 112.

The Causes of Death, which are also to be found on Table III., show that Respiratory Affection, not including Pulmonary Consumption, produced 25 deaths, giving a rate of 2.5, whilst Phthisis was the cause of seven deaths, making a rate of .7.

The Infectious Diseases notified during the year under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889, and also including Measles and Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, were as follows:—

Month.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.	Typhoid.	Erysipelas.	Phthisis.	Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Total.
Jan.	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	7
Feb.	1	—	15	—	—	1	—	17
Mar.	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	4
April	2	—	15	—	—	—	—	17
May	1	—	63	—	—	1	1	66
June	1	5	31	—	—	2	1	40
July	—	—	7	—	1	2	—	10
Aug.	2	—	4	—	—	—	—	6
Sept.	3	1	4	—	2	—	—	10
Oct.	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	4
Nov.	6	1	1	—	—	1	—	9
Dec.	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	4
	18	11	149	1	5	8	2	194

The Ages at which these infectious diseases occurred, and the Wards in which they prevailed, are shown in Table II., as well as the number removed to hospital, from which it will be seen that 45 per cent. of the cases of Diphtheria and 66 per cent. of the cases of Scarlet Fever were sent there.

It will be noticed from the above table that the great majority of the infectious cases were Measles, which

occurred in the months of April, May, and June, and it was found necessary, on account of this outbreak, to close St. Thomas' School from May 5th to the 26th.

SCARLET FEVER and DIPHTHERIA occurred sporadically and were traced in some instances to outside infection.

TYPHOID was reported only once, in which instance the person had partaken of cockles purchased away from St. Annes about a fortnight previous to her being taken ill.

The Disinfection of Rooms, Bedding, &c., has been, as in previous years, carried out free of cost in infectious and other diseases, wherever desired, and it is pleasing to note an increasing number availing themselves of this sanitary measure.

The work of the Sanitary Department will be found fully reported upon by the Inspector.

I am very pleased to report that the very important work of Refuse Removal has been much more satisfactorily carried out than in previous years, and it is also pleasing to note that the insanitary ashpits are now almost abolished.

The Water Supply of the district, which is now in the hands of the Fylde Water Board, has been, on the whole, good and satisfactory. The supply had during the summer months, owing to the long drought, to be restricted, and it is to be hoped that the new large reservoir in course of formation will soon be completed.

The condition and efficiency of our Sewerage Scheme is about the same as stated in my last Annual Report.

The Examination and Analysis of Food and Drugs under the Food and Drugs Act, which is carried out by the County Constabulary, resulted in 46 samples being taken, as compared with 10 in each of the two previous years, and were as follows:—5 Butter, 1 Cocoa, 5 Pepper, 1 Pickles, 6 Coffee, 4 Spirits, 19 Milk, 1 Potted Meat,

2 Potted Shrimps, 1 Jam, and 1 Arrowroot, all of which were found genuine or passable. Besides the above, four samples of Milk were taken by our Inspector from the large kits coming into the district, for the purpose of testing them for Tuberculosis, and all were found free from the germ.

The Surveyor reports that:—

The following Roads have been taken over by the Council during the year 1915:—

	Feet.
Clifton Drive South, from Fairhaven Road to Balmoral Road	1,560
Riley Avenue	1,130
Back St. George's Road, from Garden Street, for a distance of 40 yards	120
Total	2,810

The above figures bring the Mileage of Roads now under the control of the Council up to:—

	Miles.	Fur.	Yds.
Secondary Roads	3	7	0
Ancient Roads (1 mile 3 fur., 186 yds., not metalled)	5	0	76
Other Roads	17	0	150
Total	26	0	6

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE VETERINARY INSPECTOR.

J. R. RIGBY, M.R.C.V.S.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council, St. Annes-on-the-Sea.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you a Report on my work as Veterinary Inspector of Cattle, Cowsheds and Dairies during 1915.

I have made quarterly inspections of all cattle on farms within your district, examining on an average about 330 cattle at each inspection. My examinations have been carried out with the object of detecting any departure from health in the cattle or defect in their management or surroundings likely to affect the purity of their milk. Where such conditions are in evidence the use of milk from the affected animal is suspended until there is no longer any fear of contamination; and at each inspection I have found it necessary to do this in a varying number of cases, chiefly on account of inflammatory affections of the milk gland. In the majority of such cases I find that the milk has already been withdrawn from use, but occasionally the changes in the milk are so slight, and the gland is so little altered in appearance, that the condition has not been observed previous to my visit. This is particularly

liable to happen if the causative agent is Tuberculosis, a disease which is often rather insidious, and not easy to detect in its early stages. I am glad to be able to report that this last year the percentage of Tubercular Affections in the stocks has been very low.

The general health of the cattle, too, has been very satisfactory, though at one period during the summer they fell away from their usual condition and yield of milk, owing to the scarcity of grass. Pastures at this time were unusually bare, and on some farms cattle were turned into meadow grass to supplement the scanty herbage obtainable in their usual grazing fields.

The hygienic conditions of the farms were found to be fairly satisfactory, but farmers have had for some time considerable difficulty in obtaining an adequate number of men, and while the broad principles of hygiene, such as cleansing of cowhouses, are satisfied, hygienic refinements, such as the regular grooming of cattle, are apt to be somewhat neglected. This is unavoidable under present labour conditions, and while the war continues cannot well be remedied.

The arrangements for preventing the contamination of milk after its withdrawal from the cow, were quite efficient, milk cans and sieves being kept in a cleanly condition.

The New Milk and Dairies Bill, mentioned in my last Annual Report, as intended to come into operation in 1915, has been held over on account of the graver matters engaging the attention of our legislators.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

WILLIAM E. PROCTER, C.R.S.I., C.M.S.I.A.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council, St. Annes-on-the-Sea.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Fourteenth Annual Report of the work executed in the Sanitary Department during the year 1915.

Owing to a large number of soldiers being billeted in the town, and also because of the extra clerical duties which have been gradually increasing year by year, the appointment of Miss Moore as clerk enabled me to give more time and attention to the outside work of inspection and supervision.

Three hundred and ninety Nuisances of a very varied character were dealt with, as the following list shows:—

	No.
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	7
Black Smoke	2
Blocked Drains	6
Blocked Gullies	16

	No.
Blocked Water Closets at Empty Houses	3
Dampness in Ceilings	3
Defective:—	
Ash Receptacles	64
Basement Floor	1
Bath and Lavatory Waste Pipes	5
Dishbricks to Gullies	6
Downspouts	10
Drains:—	
Bath and Lavatory	4
Downspout	6
House	9
Slop Water	4
Wash-house	3
Water Closet	8
Yard	7
Fire Ranges	3
Floors	4
Inspection Chambers	16
Manure Pits	4
Privies	14
Roofs	4
Slopstones	3
Slop Water Pipes	12
Soil Pipes	8
Troughings	5
Walls	8
Water Closets	8
Water Closet Fittings	19
Window Frames, Sills and Cords	4
Yards	18
Insanitary Bedding and Clothing	3
,, House	1
,, Wash-houses	2
,, Water Closets	5
,, Yards	6

	No.
Insufficient Drains	2
,, Light	2
,, Ventilation under Floor	1
,, Water Closet Accommodation	2
Offensive Accumulations	19
,, Smells from Defective Gas Fittings...	2
,, Smells from Gully	2
Overcrowded House	1
Traps at foot of Soil Pipes	4
Waste Water Lodging	16
Nuisances found in House-to-House Inspections under the Public Health Act, 1875, and Housing Act, 1909	28

1,170 Inspections and Re-inspections were made whilst these nuisances were in course of abatement, so as to ensure the work being carried out in a satisfactory manner.

At one pair of old semi-detached houses the drains were in a defective condition, the joints being of clay, and there were no turning chambers or inspection chambers for rodding purposes. The whole of the drains were taken out and re-laid with cement joints and proper chambers fixed for easy access to the drains. The cost of this sanitary work, and the re-asphalting of the yards and footpaths, was over £50.

During the year the following work in the Scavenging Department was carried out under my supervision. A similar table for 1914 is shown for comparison:—

	1914.	1915.
Dust Bins Emptied	96,523	...103,865
Ashpits Emptied	4,921	... 5,648
Privy Pails Emptied	2,579	... 2,241
Ashpits and Water Closets Disinfected	2,447	... 2,809
Loads of Refuse taken to Destructor	3,211	... 3,349
Loads of Refuse taken to Tip ...	3	... —
Dead Animals found on Shore ...	41	... 13

Privy Closets are of two kinds—the fixed type and the movable one; of the former, 19 at present remain, whilst of the latter there are 45. With the exception of four of these privy pail closets the whole of the privies are in the rural portion of our district, where sewers have not yet been laid.

During the year five fixed Privies have been converted into Water Closets, and three Privies and one Privy Pail abolished. Four Privy Pails have yet to be altered; two belong to one owner, who intends to carry out the alteration; whilst the remaining two do not desire at the present time to have theirs altered.

We have now the following number of Sanitary Conveniences in the town. The best type of closet in use is by far the largest in number:—

4,616 Fresh Water Closets.
21 Waste Water Closets.
19 Privies (fixed).
45 Privy Pails (movable).

Although the Refuse Destructor has now been working for the past fifteen years, it has shown more signs of decay during the year than formerly, and it has been necessary to support the structure with buttresses, and also to repair the defective outer walls of the cells.

Fortunately, the iron framework prevented the bricks from actually falling down.

With our present system of conveying refuse by cart to the Destructor, the present tipping platform is inadequate, but if four-wheeled vans or motor vans are contemplated, extensive alterations or a new Destructor will be necessary.

Old tins, originally containing food, condiments, and all kinds of materials used for domestic purposes, gradually accumulate in a large pile at the Destructor.

When the pile has assumed the proportion of about 10 tons, the tins are crushed and sent away by rail.

These and other waste products have been sold, realising about £40.

Twenty-eight Houses visited under the powers contained in the Public Health Act, 1875, revealed 12 defects, consisting of defective water closets, slop-water pipes, downspots, roofs, and ashpits.

Forty-nine Houses were examined under the Housing Act, 1907. These inspections were made to ascertain if the houses were habitable, and, apart from 16 defects in the slop-water pipes, ashpits, soil-pipes, window frames, roofs, troughings and dampness in rooms and water lodging in the yards, the conditions were satisfactory. Defects were remedied shortly after the responsible owners received notices.

The St. Annes-on-the-Sea Improvement Act, 1914, came into force during the latter part of that year, and it contains many useful clauses effectually dealing with Public Health, but one section was, no doubt, inserted as a result of legal proceedings two years ago respecting the vexed question, drain *v.* sewer. This clause is set out in Section 38 as follows:—

"The powers given by Section 19 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, in relation to two or more houses belonging to different owners, shall extend and apply to two or more houses belonging to the same owner."

During the year this clause was the means of saving the town an expense of upwards of £50. It came about in this way. An owner of a pair of semi-detached houses, with a single drain in a defective condition, called upon, and requested the Sanitary Department to remedy the defect, as he contended the drain was a sewer. Instructions were given for the work to be carried out at the Council's

expense, having overlooked the above-named clause, but, before starting, it was remembered that Public Health Acts were extended so as to include one owner.

Ashpits have been decreasing in number for many years past, but during that time the expense of alterations has been borne by the property owners.

On my suggesting that the alteration of ashpits should be carried out at the Council's expense, if the owners undertook to provide the galvanized iron dust-bins, it was agreed that this should be done.

When this proposal was made in July, there were 486 ashpits in the district. Owners requested us to alter 380 ashpits, 331 of which have already been altered, leaving 49 yet to be proceeded with.

The result, so far, has been most gratifying, and, seeing that there will only be 106 ashpits left, it is hoped the owners will shortly give their sanction for these antiquated dust-holes to be re-modelled for the reception of the dust-bins.

This work of alteration of ashpits has engaged a great deal of my time, because each house had to be visited, and a list of owners obtained prior to circular letters being sent to them. Many interviews have taken place between owners and myself respecting the proposed alterations, and it has been necessary to satisfy many as to the benefits they will derive. It was pointed out that there would be no more accounts for repairs to defective ashpit doors, and the altered buildings, in several instances, could be used as coal-stores, or store-places. In addition, it has required my daily attendance to supervise the progress of the work, and also to suggest how this was to be carried out most effectually.

Pedestrians can now traverse footpaths of back streets without fear of stumbling against open ashpit doors—and

the streets are not littered with paper and debris, because there are no doors for rag-gatherers and children to leave open.

There are 2,174 dust-bins in use in the district, an increase of 355 over last year. This large addition is due to property owners taking advantage of the Council's free offer to alter ashpits.

There now being such a preponderance of bins, it will facilitate the work of emptying, avoiding the necessity of men having to creep into an ashpit for the purpose of throwing out refuse. This latter, a most disgusting practice for any person to be called upon to perform in this year 1915, and, to obviate this, it is anticipated that the remaining owners of ashpits will have them reconstructed, and provide the necessary bins.

Traders' refuse, being a bulky commodity, requires removal very frequently, otherwise traders' premises appear to be untidy. Shops are visited twice a week, and all refuse is removed each time the dustmen call. Fish refuse was removed daily during the summer months, on the fishmongers agreeing to pay the Council for the extra work and attention.

1,043 Articles, such as bedding, clothing, and household linen, were conveyed from the infected premises to the Steam Disinfector to be disinfected, after which they were returned the same day.

Three hundred and sixteen rooms were disinfected with formalin or sulphur.

There are 21 Farms in the district, which have been inspected quarterly, for the purpose of ascertaining the conditions of the cowsheds, milking utensils, water supply, and drainage arrangements.

The cowsheds were found in clean condition, whilst the milking utensils were kept sweet and clean. In every

instance each farm is supplied with water from the mains of the Fylde Water Board. The drainage arrangements were satisfactory.

Dairies were found to be clean and in good condition.

There is room for improvement in the way milk is delivered from the farms to the consumer. The practice of ladling milk from a large kit to small cans or jugs is to be deprecated, because of the danger of dust and dirt that may be allowed to fall into the cans or jugs.

Another bad practice is the placing of kits upon the footpaths, and allowing dairymen to take the milk therefrom.

There is a Public Abattoir in the district, where animals are slaughtered for food, all the private slaughter-houses being closed fourteen years ago, when the Abattoir was erected.

Returns, showing the number of cattle, sheep, and pigs slaughtered at the Abattoir each month since May, have been forwarded to the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Three hundred and sixty-eight beasts, 172 calves, 3,341 lambs and sheep, and 221 pigs, making a total of 4,102, were slaughtered at the Public Abattoir during the year.

A greater number of cattle were killed than in former years, due to the increased cost of frozen meat.

There were 4,079 lbs. of diseased meat surrendered, 4,026 lbs. being affected with tuberculosis, and the remainder due to hydatids and other causes.

The carcases of six beasts and one pig, together with all the internal organs affected with generalized tuberculosis, were destroyed at the Destructor. A new watering trough for cattle and sheep and extra sorting pens for sheep have been provided.

The Abattoir is well fitted up with all the necessary appliances, and every effort is made to facilitate the quick slaughter of animals.

Fifteen lbs. of Frozen Meat found to be diseased or unsound, and also a parcel containing 55 lbs. of legs of mutton, were surrendered and immediately destroyed.

Restaurant Kitchens, Ice Creameries, Chipped Potato, and other Food Premises have been frequently visited, for the purpose of inspection to ascertain their condition. They were always found satisfactory, due, no doubt, to the fact that the occupiers recognized the great importance of a pure and wholesome food supply.

Under the St. Annes-on-the-Sea Improvement Act, 1914, Regulations have been made whereby Ice Cream for sale may only be produced under the most hygienic conditions. Copies of these Regulations were delivered to each Ice Cream vendor in the district.

Seventy-two Visits have been paid to the Bakehouses. The baking utensils were found in clean condition. It was necessary on a few occasions to remind the occupiers of the condition of the walls and ceilings, and they have had them limewashed without delay.

Forty-two Workshops were visited, and the premises, with four exceptions, were in a satisfactory condition. In these instances the walls and ceilings required limewashing, whilst at two of the other premises the water-closets were insanitary. All these matters were at once attended to.

Six Hourly Smoke Observations were made, but the time limit was not exceeded; in fact, of these 360 minutes, only for 12 minutes was black smoke sent out of the chimneys, or an average of two minutes per hour.

Special Reports were made to the Council, at their request, upon the "Ventilation of Sewers," and "Dust Bins, Ashpits, and Privy Closets."

After these reports were presented, the matters were dealt with, and consequently certain improvements have since been made.

For about four months there were 3,000 soldiers billeted in 420 houses, 344 of which had baths attached, whilst the remaining 76 houses had no baths, but arrangements were made, however, for the men to have body ablutions frequently.

Every billet was visited, with a view to ascertain the amount of overcrowding, insanitary condition of beds or premises. These houses were situate in every part of the town, and it is gratifying to state that there were not more than a dozen of them requiring special and constant attention.

Instructions were given to householders to have bedroom windows opened freely, so as to allow a constant change of air. In many instances windows were kept open day and night. Most of the houses were admirably adapted for the purpose of billeting, and, on the whole, housesholders treated the men sumptuously.

As the soldiers were connected with Artillery Brigades, a large number of horses were stabled here, but the majority were tethered in long rows in the fields. Between 800 and 1,000 were kept here at one time, and it was necessary to see that the removal of manure was properly attended to.

The Lancashire Military Convalescent Hospital is situated in St. Annes, and occupies what was previously a Racecourse. There is at present accommodation for 400 wounded soldiers, but when the buildings now in course of erection are completed, there will be accommodation

for 2,000 men, and even then there is still a large area of land for extending the building operations, so as to shelter another 8,000 wounded men.

Fifteen Certificates of Habitation were granted. These houses were inspected and found in satisfactory condition.

Five hundred and fifty-one Letters were despatched from the Sanitarv Department to persons, requesting their attention to matters necessary for the preservation and protection of the health of the community. It is pleasing to note the ready response made by the recipients to assist the department in this way by making progress with the necessary work.

There was no necessity to take legal proceedings against any persons for contravention of the Public Health Acts, Bye-laws, or Regulations.

Under the Shops Act, however, legal proceedings had to be taken, and are related in the report dealing with shops.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE SHOPS INSPECTOR.

WILLIAM E. PROCTER.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of St. Annes-on-the-Sea.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Second Annual Report as Inspector of Shops.

Visits have been paid to 168 shops in the town, and also to each new shop, when all explanations and details of the Closing Order were given to the trader.

An up-to-date classification of the shops is given below, showing the number in each Ward, the class of shop, exempted or non-exempted; also other tables showing various details:—

There are:

243	Shops in the town;	occupied	229;	unoccupied	14.
2	,,	North Ward;	,,	2;	,,	—.
118	,,	South Ward;	,,	109;	,,	9.
80	,,	East Ward;	,,	75;	,,	5.
43	,,	West Ward;	,,	43;	,,	—.

These shops have 159 males and 165 females employed there, and 40 of these persons are under the age of 18 years.

There are 90 Shops under the heading:—

EXEMPTED SHOPS.

— North Ward.
43 South Ward.
33 East Ward.
14 West Ward.

There are 139 Shops under the heading:—

NON-EXEMPTED SHOPS.

2 North Ward.
66 South Ward.
42 East Ward.
29 West Ward.

CLASS OF SHOP.		Ward.			
EXEMPTED TRADES.	No.	North.	South.	East.	West.
Butchers	14	—	7	7	—
Cafes	3	—	1	—	2
Chemists	5	—	2	1	2
Drug Stores	1	—	—	1	—
Confectioners (including Sweets and Chocolate Sellers)	21	—	10	8	3
Bakers	2	—	—	2	—
Cycle and Motor Dealers	3	—	2	1	—
Dairies	2	—	1	1	—
Fish Dealers	4	—	3	—	1
Fruiterers	6	—	3	1	2
Newsagents	10	—	7	3	—
Tripe Dealer	1	—	—	1	—
Refreshments (Fish & Chips)	5	—	1	4	—
Licensed Retail and Intoxicating Liquors	5	—	1	2	2
Tobacconists	8	—	5	1	2
	90	—	43	33	14

CLASS OF SHOP.		Ward.			
NON-EXEMPTED TRADES.	No.	North.	South.	East.	West.
Bassinette Dealer	1	—	1	—	—
Bootmakers	10	—	5	4	1
China Dealers	2	—	1	—	1
Corn Dealer	1	—	—	1	—
Costumiers	4	—	2	1	1
Coal Agents	12	—	—	2	10
Drapers	24	—	10	9	5
Electrician	1	—	—	—	1
Florist	1	—	1	—	—
Furniture Brokers	5	—	4	1	—
Furnishers	5	—	3	1	1
Grocers	29	2	10	15	2
Ironmongers	4	—	3	1	—
Massage and Toilet	1	—	1	—	—
Milliners	5	—	3	1	1
Music Dealers	1	—	1	—	—
Needlework	3	—	2	—	1
Saddlers	2	—	2	—	—
Painters	3	—	3	—	—
Photographers	4	—	3	1	—
Plumbers	2	—	1	—	1
Gas Appliances	1	—	1	—	—
Rubber Dealers	1	—	1	—	—
Tailors and Outfitters	11	—	5	3	3
Toy Dealer	1	—	1	—	—
Tin-plate Worker	1	—	—	1	—
Watchmakers and Jewellers	4	—	2	1	1
	139	2	66	42	29
Empty	14	—	9	5	—

A Closing Order, comprehensive and unique, was submitted to the Home Office, and confirmed and amended by the Secretary of State, as set out in last year's report, but with these amendments:—

> "Provided that nothing in this Order shall affect the trade or business of a Fried Fish and Chip Potato Dealer, or the sale by retail of motor, cycle and aircraft supplies and accessories."

There were only a few of the shops closed daily for the meal hours last year, but this year the custom prevails at several shops. The shopkeepers assure me that it is

better for the assistants and customers alike, as the former have no interruption at meal-times, and the latter are served more expeditiously.

Many traders closed their shops during the Wednesday afternoons of the three summer months. Their reasons were to prevent their shops being under-staffed each afternoon of the week when one or more assistants were on holiday, in lieu of Wednesday afternoon, and also that customers could be attended to in a better manner.

Seats are provided for assistants where females are employed.

Young persons were not employed in the shops more than seventy-four hours per week, the time allowed by the Act. In one case, however, quite unintentionally, an employer kept a child at work after 9 p.m. After pointing out that this contravened the Employment of Children Act, 1903, the matter was rectified.

Notices were not exhibited at ten shops, but seven occupiers have since obtained them, and there are yet three shops without notices displayed.

St. Annes is a health resort, hence all shops are exempt as regards the three months, July, August, and September, but all shop assistants must have one half-day holiday each week, or a fortnight's holiday with full pay, as an equivalent for this three months' full employment. In two or three instances enquiries from the shop assistants showed me they received their full benefits under the Act.

Many observations were made as to the closing of shops during the evenings. In nine instances shops were kept open after the closing hour, but, on interviewing the shopkeepers at the time, contraventions did not occur afterwards.

The provisions of the Closing Order have been adhered to by the shopkeepers, with two exceptions. These

two traders were sellers of sweets and chocolates, and they felt they had a grievance because they were included in the Closing Order, and not exempted from its provisions.

Their shops were kept open in contravention of the Order, and there was no alternative but to take legal proceedings against them. This was done on two occasions, and the result of the first hearing was that both shopkeepers were ordered to pay costs because of their contravention of the Order. On the second occasion, when proceedings were taken against these two shopkeepers, the magistrates contended that the words "sweets and chocolates" in the Order referred to sweets and chocolates sold in a confectioner's shop in the ordinary sense of the word. The cases were dismissed. Application for an appeal was made, and this has been granted, but it has not yet been brought before the High Court.

The County Council granted permission to the St. Annes Council to carry out the provisions of the Shops Act, 1912, with the exception of the taking of legal proceedings. Fortunately, or unfortunately, the latter have decided to give the former three months' notice, at the end of which time the Shops Act will be administered by the County Council.

The weather conditions during the months were as follows:—

JANUARY.....This was a somewhat wet and cold month. Rain fell on the first 15 days, and frost occurred on the grass on an equal number of nights. Westerly winds prevailed.

FEBRUARY ...Somewhat wet and cold month. Frost on grass 12 days, and rain fell on 20 days. South-easterly winds prevailed.

MARCH.....A dry and sunny month. Prevailing winds were from the west.

APRIL.....This was a typical April, being very showery, but between the showers it was very sunny.

MAY.....This was a sunny month, with 248 hours of sunshine. The winds were light, the prevailing ones being from the south-east.

JUNE.....Beautiful sunny weather prevailed. No rain fell between the 5th and the 21st. Light westerly winds cooled the air.

JULY.....On the whole, fine weather reigned. Westerly winds prevailed.

AUGUST.....Although the rainfall was large there was a nice spell of sunny weather from the 17th to the 27th.

SEPTEMBER...A month of lovely weather, with only one exception, every day bright sunshine was recorded. Light breezes predominated and high temperatures were frequent.

OCTOBER.....Up to the 11th it was bright, after which dulness was very evident; almost throughout the month the winds were light and calm.

NOVEMBER...Although the weather was varied very little rain fell. Snow fell on the 13th, and again on the 15th.

DECEMBER ...This was an exceptionally wet month; seven inches of rain fell on 26 days.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

1915. ST. ANNES-ON-THE-SEA.

LONGITUDE ... 3 1 17
LATITUDE 53 44 38

Month.	Atmospheric Pressure. Mean.	Atmospheric Pressure. Maximum.	Atmospheric Pressure. Minimum.	Temperature. Mean Maximum in Shade.	Temperature. Highest Maximum in Shade.	Temperature. Lowest Minimum in Shade.	Temperature. Mean Minimum in Shade.	Temperature. Mean Daily Range.	Temperature. Mean Humidity of Air. Saturation 100.	Earth Grass Thermometers. 1 ft. below Ground (mean).	Earth Grass Thermometers. 4 ft below Ground (mean).	Earth Grass Thermometers. Grass (mean).	Rain-fall. Rainfall in inches.	Rain-fall. No of Days on which it fell.	Sun-shine. Hours of Bright Sunshine.	Sun-shine. Minutes.	Direction of Wind at 9 a.m. N.	Direction of Wind at 9 a.m. N.E.	Direction of Wind at 9 a.m. E.	Direction of Wind at 9 a.m. S.E.	Direction of Wind at 9 a.m. S.	Direction of Wind at 9 a.m. S.W.	Direction of Wind at 9 a.m. W.	Direction of Wind at 9 a.m. N.W.	Direction of Wind at 9 a.m. Calm.	At 9 a.m. No of Days of Rain.	At 9 a.m. No of Days of Overcast.	At 9 a.m. No of Days of Bright.	At 9 a.m. No of Days of Gales
January ...	29·656	30·505	28·707	41·7	47·3	28·3	36 1	5·6	82	37 0	42·5	33·8	3·90	19	42	15	2	...	3	2	1	2	11	5	5	7	15	9	...
February..	29·245	30·375	28·929	45·1	47·7	27 3	34·6	10·5	92	38·6	44·7	32·8	3·54	20	70	15	...	1	4	8	1	2	4	4	4	7	11	10	...
March.....	30·353	30·504	29 477	43·6	51·8	25·7	35·8	7·8	92	41·9	43·2	39·7	1·30	12	113	...	1	3	4	1	1	1	9	7	4	5	14	12	...
April	30·385	30·496	29·169	48·1	64·3	30·3	40·3	7·8	91	44·0	46·2	42·5	2·11	21	173	30	...	2	1	3	...	3	19	...	2	6	7	13	...
May	30·123	30·486	29·793	58·5	75·0	32·7	44·2	14·3	83	54·5	51·3	41·6	1·07	12	248	...	2	...	6	11	...	2	2	7	1	1	10	20	...
June	30·069	30·337	29·712	63 6	72 3	41·3	49·8	13·8	66	55·8	53·7	47·7	1·49	7	205	5	2	...	7	5	5	...	8	3	...	1	7	22	...
July	29·883	30·212	29·459	62 4	69·0	51·0	54·2	8·2	75	62·9	61·4	51·9	3·93	12	177	50	1	...	...	2	4	1	14	9	...	1	13	17	...
August ...	30·364	30·350	29·618	64·3	70 6	47·4	57·2	7·1	74	59·1	61·4	54·7	4·38	15	136	40	...	1	2	3	...	1	11	13	...	3	11	17	...
September	29·819	30·380	29·416	60·9	72·6	36·0	51·2	9·7	72	58·5	58·2	48·7	0·39	5	161	...	3	3	1	9	5	...	6	3	...	...	11	19	...
October ...	30·316	30·481	29·745	53·1	57·3	34·2	43·2	9·9	92	49·5	55·5	38·7	2·15	11	53	45	1	1	9	9	1	...	...	...	10	3	20	8	...
November.	29·732	30·756	29·119	38·3	49 1	20·1	31·5	6·8	83	40·7	41·0	29 2	1·91	12	75	45	...	4	8	6	1	...	6	1	4	2	14	14	...
December.	29 576	30·378	29·135	40·4	49·1	28·4	36·8	3·6	87	39·6	39·6	36 9	7 00	26	32	15	...	2	8	7	2	2	5	2	3	11	11	9	...
Sums ...	359·521	365·270	353·279	620·0	726·1	392·7	514·9	105·1	989	582 1	598·7	498·2	33·17	172	1489	20	12	17	53	66	21	14	95	54	33	47	144	169	...
Means .	29·960	30·439	29·439	51·6	60·5	32·7	42·8	8·7	82	48·5	49·8	41 5																	

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

The Workshops on the Register number 68, and include:

Bakers and Confectioners	18
Blacksmiths	1
Boot Repairing	7
Cabinet Making and Upholstering	6
Cycle Repairing	2
Dressmaking	12
French Polishing	1
Golf Club Making	1
Golf Bag Making	1
Harness Making	2
Joinery	1
Laundry	1
Millinery	7
Tailoring	6
Tin-plate Working	2

The Factories number 25, and include the following:—

Aerated and Bottling Depots	3
Boot Repairing	1
Blacksmith	1
Electricity Works	2

Gas Works	1
Joiners	5
Laundries	3
Letterpress Printing	2
Motor Repair Works	3
Refuse Destructor Works	1
Stone Dressing	1
Tram Car Repairing	1
Wheelwright	1

Offensive Trades:

Gut Scraping	1
Rag and Bone Depot	1

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1915 and previous years.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ST. ANNES-ON-THE-SEA.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un-corrected Number	Nett.				of Non-residents regist'r'd in the District.	of Resi-dents not regist'r'd in the District.	Under One Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number	Rate.	Number	Rate.			Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1910	11033	130	130	11.7	95	8.6	...	...	9	69	...	...
1911	9842	142	142	14.0	103	10.2	...	11	13	91	114	11.3
1912	10246	101	103	10.1	92	8.9	9	11	11	108	94	9.1
1913	10455	122	122	11.6	95	9.0	7	16	6	49	104	9.9
1914	10787	114	114	10.5	105	9.7	11	7	12	105	101	9.3
1915	10845	96	96	8.8	130	11.9	14	15	3	31	131	12.0
Gen. Reg. Office Estimate	9933	...	...	9.6	...	13.0	...	...	...	...	...	13.1

Area of District in acres (land and inland water) ... 3212

Total population at all ages ..... 9842 At Census, 1911
Number of inhabited houses ..... 2019 (cf. Census, Vol. V.)
Average number of persons per house. 4.87

TABLE II.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1915.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ST. ANNES-ON-THE-SEA.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases notified.								Total Cases notified in Locality (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the District.				Total Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all ages	At Ages (Years).											
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwd's	North Ward.	South Ward.	East Ward.	West Ward.	
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)...	11	...	2	7	...	1	1	...	4	4	3	...	5
Erysipelas	5	1	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	1	2	2	...
Scarlet Fever	18	...	3	12	2	1	...	...	2	3	1	12	12
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	8	...	...	...	1	4	3	...	1	3	1	3	...
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	2	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
Measles (com.)	149	4	25	98	18	3	1	...	41	55	37	16	...
Totals	194	5	30	118	21	11	8	1	50	66	45	33	17

Not including 4 Military Cases: 1 S.F. East, Moss Side I.D.H. 1 Erysipelas, East. 1 Enteric, Nth. Blpl. San. 1 Measles, Sth.

Isolation Hospitals: Moss Side Infectious Diseases Hospital, near Lytham, Fylde Joint Hospital Board.

TABLE III.—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1915.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ST. ANNES-ON-THE-SEA.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	
All Causes — Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All Causes — Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	7	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	2	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	5	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease...	11	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	5	...

Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease	20	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	14	...
Bronchitis	11	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	6	...
Pneumonia (all forms)	12	...	...	...	...	...	2	9	1	...
Other Diseases of respiratory organs ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	6	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Alcoholism	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases	32	1	...	...	2	...	4	11	14	...
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	9	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	7	...
Totals	131	3	1	2	4	2	19	44	56	...

TABLE IV.—Infant Mortality during the Year 1915.
Nett Deaths from Stated Causes at Various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ST. ANNES-ON-THE-SEA.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes { Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All Causes { Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
Gastritis	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Totals	1	...	1	1	3	...	...	...	...	3

Nett Births in the year { Legitimate—94.
Illegitimate—2.

Nett Deaths in the year of { Legitimate Infants—3.
Illegitimate Infants—0.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1915, for the Urban District of St. Annes-on-the-Sea, on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, Workplaces, and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
1	2	3	4
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	12	1	...
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)...	114	4	...
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' Premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	21	...	...
Total...	147	5	...

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
1	2	3	4	5
NUISANCES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :				
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	...	...
Want of Ventilation	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...
Want of Drainage of Floors	...	...	...	...
Other Nuisances	2	2	...	...
Sanitary Accommodation — insufficient	1	1	...	...
Sanitary Accommodation — unsuitable or defective...	1	1	...	...
Sanitary Accommodation — not separate for sexes ...	...	...	...	...
OFFENCES UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT :				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	...	...	...	...
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)...	4	4	...	...
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)...	...	...	...	...
Total	9	9	...	...

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class. 1	Number. 2	
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :		
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	None.	
Action taken in matters referred to H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Acts (s. 5). — Notified by H.M. Inspectors	1	
Action taken in matters referred to H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Acts (s. 5). — Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors	1	
Other	None.	
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :		
Certificates granted during the year	None.	
In use at the end of the year	None.	
HOMEWORK :	Number of	
LISTS OF OUTWORKERS (s. 107) :	Lists.	Out-workers.
Lists received	None.	None.
Addresses of out-workers. — forwarded to other Authorities ...	...	...
Addresses of out-workers. — received from other Authorities...	...	...
	Wearing Apparel.	Other.
HOMEWORK IN UNWHOLESOME OR INFECTED PREMISES :		
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (s. 108)	...	...
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises	...	...
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (s. 110)	...	...
Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year		
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here. — Workshop Bakehouses 20		
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here. — Total number of workshops on Register ...	68	

F. BOOTH,
Medical Officer of Health.

BRITISH MUSEUM
66
OCT